

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARAMA 00704 160559Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DLOS-09 OES-07 EB-08 ACDA-12
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 AID-05 /121 W
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P 151516Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4332
INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARAMARIBO 704

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR PBOR EFIS NS GY
SUBJ: VOICES OF MODERATION SPEAK UP

1. GUYANESE EMBASSY SOURCE INDICATES THAT BOTH GOVERNMENTAL AND UNOFFICIAL EFFORTS ARE UNDERWAY TO LOWER THE LEVEL OF TENSION IN SURINAM-GUYANA RELATIONS BROUGHT ABOUT WITH THE DELIVERY OF A GUYANESE PROTEST NOTE TO PRIME MINISTER ARRON ON APRIL 12. ACCORDING TO SOURCE, GUYANESE AMBASSADOR MET WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS (UNIDENTIFIED) MAY 13 TO DISCUSS POSSIBILITY OF CARRYING OUT FEBRUARY WILLS-ARRON AGREEMENT ON FISHING QUESTIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. SURINAMERS, IN SOURCE'S VIEW, SEEM TO BE WAITING FOR A FORMAL REPLY TO THEIR REPLY NOTE OF APRIL 22, AND SOME RESPONSE TO SUGGESTIONS FOR TALKS PUT FORWARD IN IT. GUYANESE OFFICIAL FELT THAT GOVERNMENT CIRCLES IN GEORGETOWN HAD AT LAST HAD A CHANCE TO REVIEW EMBASSY INPUTS INTO THE DECISION
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MAKING PROCESS AND WERE RECONSIDERING GUYANA'S STANCE.

2. AT THE SAME TIME, MODERATE FORCES ARE SPEAKING UP IN SURINAM AND AT A MEETING OF SECONDARY LEVEL STUDENTS HELD MAY 10 TO DISCUSS THE HISTORY OF SURINAM'S BORDER DISPUTE WITH GUYANA URGED THAT THE TWO COUNTRIES COME TO A PEACEFUL SOLUTION OF THEIR DIFFERENCES. SEVERAL PUBLIC FIGURES WHO

ARE KNOWN TO BE FRIENDLY TOWARD GUYANA, INCLUDING THE EDITOR OF ONE OF PARAMARIBO'S THREE DUTCH-LANGUAGE DAILES, OPPOSITION PARLIAMENT MEMBER HERRENBURG AND RADIO COMMENTATOR FRED MARTE, PARTICIPATED IN THE SESSION, WHICH PRESS ACCOUNTS DESCRIBED AS THE FIRST IN SURINAM'S HISTORY TO DISCUSS BORDER PROBLEMS WITH GUYANA PUBLICLY. AMONG THE SUGGESTIONS TO COME OUT OF THE GATHERING WERE A PROPOSAL FOR A SURINAMESE WHITE PAPER ON THE DISPUTE, INCREASED USE OF INTERNATIONAL LAW IN EXAMINING THE POINTS AT ISSUE AND APPOINTMENT OF A RESIDENT AMBASSADOR IN GEORGETOWN.

3. LOCAL PRESS HAS ALSO REPORTED A TELEGRAM REPORTEDLY SENT TO THE GOVERNMENTS OF GUYANA AND SURINAM BY THE REGIONAL MEETING OF THE NATIONAL PREPARATORY COMMITTEES FOR THE ELEVENTH WORLD YOUTH FESTIVAL WHICH WAS RECENTLY HELD IN BARBADOS. THE MEETING IS SAID TO HAVE URGED BOTH GOVERNMENTS TO COME TO A PEACEFUL SOLUTION OF THE BORDER DISPUTE IN THE "TRUE SPIRIT OF SOLIDARITY BETWEEN BROTHER PEOPLES AND FOR PEACE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE."
ZURHELLEN

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NNN

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